

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 148087

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 148087

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, OAU, EGEN, KE, ET, RW

SUBJECT: BRIEFING MEMO: ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS' CALL AT
OAU HEADQUARTERS

REFS: STATE 114983, 75525, 112992 AND ADDIS 6043

1. YOU ARE SCHEDULED TO VISIT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY DURING YOUR VISIT TO ADDIS
ABABA. EITHER ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY GENERAL WILLIAM
ETEKI MBOUMOUA OR DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL KAMANDA IS
EXPECTED TO RECEIVE YOU.

2. BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION - ETEKI HAS HELD THE SENIOR
OAU ADMINISTRATIVE POST SINCE SEPTEMBER 1974. AT THE JUNE
1974 OAU HEADS OF STATE MEETING IN MOGADISCIO THE 41-YEAR
OLD FRENCH-EDUCATED CAMEROONIAN WAS UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED
FOR A 4-YEAR TERM AS A COMPROMISE FOLLOWING A DAY-LONG
WRANGLE BETWEEN BLACK AFRICAN AND ARAB STATES ON BEHALF OF
THEIR CANDIDATES. HIS CAMEROONIAN PREDECESSOR WAS FORCED
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PAGE 02 STATE 148087

TO RESIGN AFTER SIGNING, ON BEHALF OF THE OAU, A CONTRACT

WITH "TINY" ROWLAND'S BRITISH-BASED CONGLOMERATE LONRHO.

THE QUIET AND SOMEWHAT REMOTE ETEKI SPEAKS EXCELLENT FRENCH AND GOOD ENGLISH AND IS CONSIDERED TO BE A SERIOUS, COMPETENT AND HARDWORKING ADMINISTRATOR WITH A PENCHANT FOR JAZZ MUSIC. ETEKI SERVED AS CAMEROONIAN PRESIDENT AHIDJO'S EDUCATION MINISTER FROM 1961-68 AND LOST MOST OF HIS SUSPICION OF THE US THROUGH CONTACT WITH THE PEACE CORPS AND AID EDUCATION SPECIALIST IN CAMEROON. HE WAS A 1968 LEADER GRANTEE AND WAS IN WASHINGTON IN OCTOBER 1974 AT THE SAME TIME AS OAU PRESIDENT SIAD BUT DID NOT ACCOMPANY HIM.

UPCOMING KAMPALA MEETING - THE OAU SECRETARIAT IS NOW HEAVILY ENGAGED IN PREPARATIONS FOR THE JULY 18-AUGUST 2 COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND HEADS OF STATE MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR KAMPALA. (EMBASSY ADDIS ABABA POLITICAL OFFICER BRUCE ROGERS IS SCHEDULED TO ATTEND AS AN OBSERVER.) DESPITE PRIVATE MISGIVINGS BY MANY AFRICAN LEADERS, HOST PRESIDENT IDI AMIN APPARENTLY WILL RECEIVE THE TRADITIONAL HONOR OF BEING ELECTED OAU PRESIDENT FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

ONE ITEM OF BUSINESS IN THE KAMPALA MEETINGS IS EXPECTED TO BE THE HAMMERING OUT OF AGREED OAU POSITIONS ON UPCOMING ISSUES IN THE SEVENTH EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE UNGA AND THE 30TH UNGA, PARTICULARLY THOSE ISSUES INVOLVING ENERGY, COMMODITIES AND SOUTHERN AFRICA.

AT THE APRIL EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, IN DAR ES SALAAM A "DECLARATION ON SOUTHERN AFRICA" WAS ADOPTED (STATE 114983). LESS CONCILIATORY THAN THE 1969 LUSAKA MANIFESTO, IT ENDORSED SECRET EFFORTS OF SOME AFRICAN PRESIDENTS AND OF SOUTH AFRICA TO ENCOURAGE A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ENDORSING CONTINUED AFRICAN EFFORTS TO FORCE SOUTH AFRICA TO ALLOW NAMIBIA SELF-DETERMINATION AND DENOUNCING "DETENTE" WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

SUBJECTS YOU MAY WISH TO RAISE -

YOU MAY WISH TO:

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PAGE 03 STATE 148087

A. SOLICIT HIS VIEWS ON THE KAMPALA MEETING.

B. SOLICIT HIS VIEWS ON THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA- PARTICULARLY MOZAMBIQUE AND ITS POSSIBLE ENFORCEMENT OF SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA.

SUBJECTS HE MAY RAISE -

ETEKI MAY WELL RAISE QUESTIONS ABOUT US POLICY IN THE
7TH SPECIAL SESSION AND THE 30TH UNGA, US POLICY IN
SOUTHERN AFRICA AND US BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH SOMALIA,
ZAIRE AND MOZAMBIQUE.

IF ASKED ABOUT US POLICY CONCERNING THE SEVENTH
SPECIAL SESSION YOU SHOULD BE GUIDED BY STATE 75525 AND
112992. YOU MAY WISH TO REFER TO MAY 21 CONVERSATION
BETWEEN DCM PARKER WYMAN AND OAU ASSISTANT SECRETARY
GENERAL OSANYA-NYYNEQUE, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF OAU PREPARA-
TIONS FOR SEVENTH SESSION (ADDIS 6043) AND INFORM OAU
OFFICIALS THAT DEPARTMENT WILL KEEP THE OAU INFORMED
THROUGH NORMAL EMBASSY CHANNELS AS PREPARATIONS FOR THE
SESSION DEVELOP. KISSINGER

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